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Monthly Gas Utility Statistical Report

American Gas Association

Department of Statistics

American Gas Association
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March 1985

Residential, commercial, and industrial sales decreased in March of 1985 compared to last year. Total utility sales were down from 1469.8 trillion Btu in March 1984 to 1378.5 trillion Btu in March 1985.

GAS UTILITY VOLUMES TO ULTIMATE CONSUMERS (Trillions of Btu)

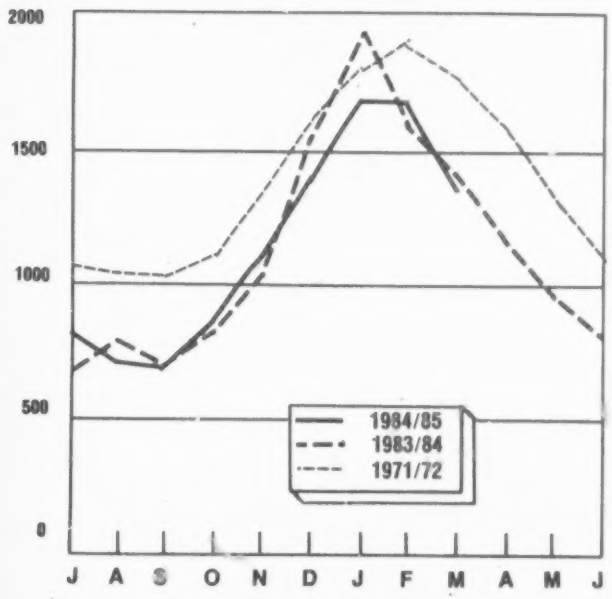
	March			Heating Season (Nov-Mar)		January 1 to December 31		
	1985	1984	% Change[1]	1985	Last Period	1985 Forecast	1984[P]	% Change
Residential	559.8	613.1	- 8.7	3,118.5	- 2.6	4,624.6	4,612.1	+ 0.3
Commercial	270.5	298.2	- 9.3	1,499.6	- 2.5	2,385.6	2,362.9	+ 1.0
Industrial	533.0	541.6	- 1.6	2,724.5	+ 2.0	6,343.1	6,323.3	+ 0.3
Other	15.2	16.9	-	84.6	-	147.1	147.8	-
Total Sales	1378.5	1469.8	- 6.2	7,427.2	- 1.0	13,500.4	13,446.1	+ 0.4
Transportation	133.0	67.5	+ 97.0	780.6	+ 68.4	N/A	N/A	
Total Volumes	1511.5	1537.3	- 1.7	8,207.8	+ 3.0	N/A	N/A	
Degree Days*	573	735	- 22.0	3,825	- 4.2			

*Source: (NOAA - Weighted by Gas Homeheating Customers - Normal for March is 657.)

Gas volumes are based on a sample of 69 companies whose sales constitute about 65 percent of the total gas utility sales to ultimate consumers.

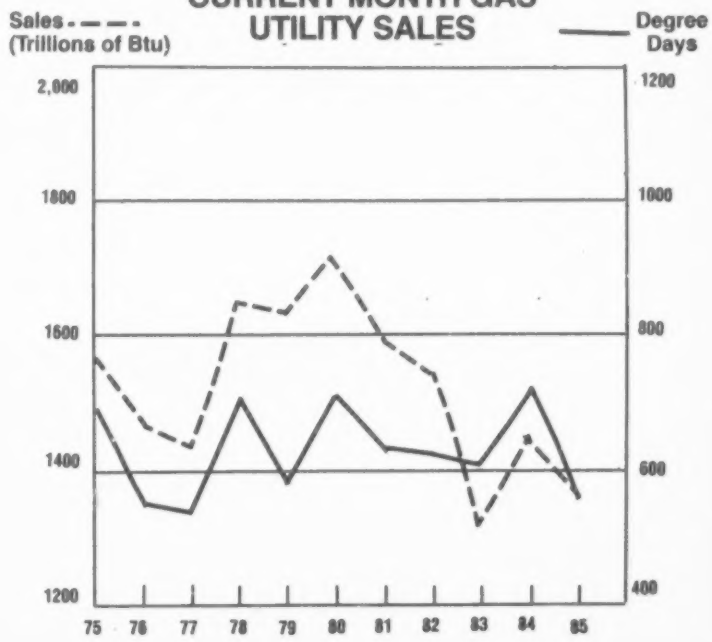
MONTHLY GAS UTILITY SALES

(Trillions of Btu)



The peak year in sales for the Gas Utility Industry occurred in 1972.

CURRENT MONTH GAS UTILITY SALES



RESIDENTIAL APPLIANCE SHIPMENTS - MARCH
(Thousands of Units)

	1985	1984	% Change '84 vs '85
Domestic Range			
Gas	164.1	154.5	+ 6.2
Electric	240.9	259.5	- 7.2
Clothes Dryers			
Gas	60.2	54.5	+ 10.5
Electric	229.7	233.0	- 1.4
Warm Air Furnaces			
Gas	125.8	127.1	- 1.0
Electric	32.7	33.0	- 0.8
Oil	8.7	9.9	- 12.4
Boilers			
Gas	8.9	9.5	- 5.5
Electric	0.1	0.1	- 22.0
Oil	6.7	5.4	+ 24.5

Sources: Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association (GAMA)

ECONOMIC INDICATORS - MARCH

	1985	1984	% Change '84 vs '85
Total Actual Private Housing Starts (Thous. of units)	144.7	137.5	+ 5.2
Consumer Price Index (All urban, unadjusted, 1967 = 100)			
Gas (utility pipe gas)	580.1	571.4	+ 1.5
Electricity	354.2	335.8	+ 5.5
Fuel Oil	626.3	671.6	- 6.7

Sources: Department of Commerce, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Index Total Gas Sales (1972 = 100)	78.4	83.6	- 6.2
Gas Utility Prices ($/MMBtu)			
Residential	5.77	5.66	+ 1.9
Commercial	5.51	5.46	+ 0.9
Industrial	4.21	4.28	- 1.6
Total	5.10	5.10	+ 0.0
Carriage Volumes[3] (trillions of Btu)			
To Ultimate Consumers	133.0	67.5	+ 97.0
For Ultimate Consumers	39.7	24.4	+ 62.7
For Resale	285.2	215.4	+ 32.4
Total	457.9	307.3	+ 49.0

Source: A.G.A.

AVERAGE GAS UTILITY PRICES FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDING
($/MMBtu)

Year	Month	Total	Res.	Comm.	Ind.	Oth.
1978	Dec.	2.184	2.534	2.279	1.895	1.789
1979	Dec.	2.522	2.918	2.665	2.231	1.937
1980	Dec.	3.134	3.612	3.336	2.792	2.667
1981	Dec.	3.650	4.161	3.909	3.292	3.458
1982	Dec.	4.456	4.969	4.721	4.003	4.303
1983	Dec.	5.120	5.881	5.508	4.408	4.914
1984	Mar.P	5.091	5.848	5.491	4.351	4.855
	Apr.P	5.081	5.850	5.486	4.339	4.841
	May P	5.073	5.851	5.483	4.328	4.820
	Jun.P	5.067	5.856	5.484	4.317	4.814
	Jul.P	5.052	5.859	5.486	4.305	4.810
	Aug.P	5.050	5.859	5.484	4.301	4.803
	Sep.P	5.049	5.861	5.485	4.296	4.781
	Oct.P	5.052	5.863	5.487	4.291	4.765
	Nov.P	5.051	5.862	5.486	4.293	4.747
	Dec.P	5.054	5.880	5.500	4.293	4.758
1985	Jan.P	5.057	5.915	5.517	4.285	4.746
	Feb.P	5.058	5.901	5.507	4.281	4.723
	Mar.P	5.058	5.918	5.513	4.275	4.693

P-Preliminary

AVERAGE MONTHLY GAS UTILITY PRICES
($/MMBtu)

Year	Month	Total	Res.	Comm.	Ind.
1983	Mar.	5.23	5.78	5.54	4.50
	Apr.	5.17	5.73	5.50	4.46
	May	5.16	6.11	5.61	4.44
	Jun.	5.07	6.48	5.71	4.40
	Jul.	4.94	6.73	5.62	4.33
	Aug.	4.89	6.87	5.53	4.33
	Sep.	4.94	6.79	5.54	4.36
	Oct.	5.04	6.41	5.53	4.36
	Nov.	5.17	6.01	5.54	4.40
	Dec.	5.18	5.70	5.49	4.35
1984	Jan.P	5.13	5.54	5.41	4.32
	Feb.P	5.07	5.60	5.39	4.24
	Mar.P	5.10	5.66	5.46	4.28
	Apr.P	5.06	5.74	5.45	4.30
	May P	5.05	6.13	5.57	4.30
	Jun.P	4.96	6.67	5.76	4.26
	Jul.P	4.78	6.86	5.68	4.19
	Aug.P	4.86	6.90	5.48	4.28
	Sep.P	4.92	6.85	5.58	4.30
	Oct.P	4.99	6.43	5.55	4.30
	Nov.P	5.14	6.00	5.53	4.41
	Dec.P	5.23	5.82	5.61	4.35
1985	Jan.P	5.16	5.70	5.51	4.23
	Feb.P	5.08	5.57	5.34	4.20
	Mar.P	5.10	5.77	5.51	4.21

Editor - Tina Murphy (703/841-8503)

[1]The percent change is a function of the 69 sample companies.

[2]1984 forecasts for the residential and commercial sectors are based on available 1984 monthly data. The remaining months are derived by using a four year average. The industrial sector forecast is also based on available 1984 monthly data. The remaining months of 1984 are heavily weighted by last years sales with no adjustment made for degree days.

[3]Carriage volumes determined by using a simple straight expansion of sample data to represent the total gas utility industry. Carriage volumes for ultimate consumers are volumes delivered to another transporter, not the ultimate consumer, and are therefore broken out to eliminate double counting of volumes delivered to ultimate consumers.